



**PATRICK TESTIN**  
STATE SENATOR

***PRESS RELEASE***

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**Supreme Court Decision Gives Wisconsinites a Seat at the Table**

*Decision Blocks Non-Elected Bureaucrats from Acting Unilaterally*

**Madison, WI** – Earlier today, the Supreme Court issued a 4-3 decision that clarifies the role of the executive and legislative branches during a pandemic. Previously, non-elected bureaucrats at a state agency assumed they could act alone to shut the state down indefinitely; today’s ruling made it clear that isn’t the case. Senator Patrick Testin (Stevens Point) views the decision as a step in the right direction.

“This case makes sure that all voices are at the table to create a clear way forward for our communities,” said Senator Testin. “The one-size fits all approach initially adopted by the administration hasn’t served the people of Central and Western Wisconsin. There is no doubt that this virus is a health risk; but we can’t ignore the suffering that an indefinite shutdown has been inflicting on rural communities. With a new approach, we can save lives and livelihoods.”

Survey results indicating that 35% of Wisconsin businesses could close permanently if the shutdown persists into late June or early July have concerned Senator Testin, as has the potential for increased suicide and overdose deaths.

“Several years ago, researchers found that every percentage point increase in unemployment nationally leads to 37,000 deaths. Circumstances have changed since those findings were first published, but the correlation shows that the economy is about more than just money; it’s about the survival of our communities. That’s why it’s so important to responsibly re-open our economy as soon as possible.”

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